

Message Text

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14

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 INRE-00 OMB-01

AID-20 DPW-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /169 W

----- 011240

O R 181140Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6282

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL UDORN

USLO PEKING

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

DIA

USIA WASHDC

CINCPAC

CINCUSARPAC

CINCPACAF

CINCPACFLT

CDR USSAG NKP

CDR 13 AF ADVON UDORN

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USDAO SAIGON

SECDEF

COMUSMACTHAI

DODSPECREP BANGKOK

DODSPECREP NKP
354 TFW KORAT
CHSPECACTS BANGKOK
CDR JCRC NKP
7ACCS KORAT
432 TFW UDORN
8 TFW UBON
388 TFW KORAT
56 SOW NKP

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 7182

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MOPS, PGOV, PFOR, PINS, PINT, LA
SUBJECT: LAO WEEKLY SITREP - OCTOBER 18

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD; 13 AF ADVON, 432 TFW, 56 SOW,
388 TFW, 354 TFW AND 8 TFW FOR DO/DI; MACTHAI FOR J-2
AND PAO.

REF: VIENTIANE 7023

BEING SUMMARY: SOVIET AN-12'S, SHUTTling FROM HANOI,
CARRIED ABOUT 370 LPF PERSONNEL AND CONSIDERABLE CARGO TO
VIENTIANE DURING THE WEEK. PRC'S IL-14 CARRIED SOME CARGO
AND 19 PERSONNEL TO LUANG PRABANG. RLG
MILITARY LEADERS ARE BECOMING INCREASINGLY CONCERNED WITH
LPF REFUSAL TO PERMIT JCIA TO MONITOR ARRIVALS. NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY IS MERELY MARKING TIME. USG ANNOUNCED DEPOSIT OF
\$110 THOUSAND TO ICC/LAOS ACCOUNT, WHICH SHOULD KEEP ICC
SOLVENT FOR REMAINDER OF CY-73. ONLY FIVE MINOR MILITARY
INCIDENTS REPORTED DURING THE WEEK. END SUMMARY.

I. IMPLEMENTING THE AGREEMENT

A. ARRIVAL OF LPF PERSONNEL: IN SERIES OF
SHUTTLE FLIGHTS ON FIVE SEPARATE DAYS DURING WEEK,
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TWO SOVIET AN-12 AIRCRAFT AIRLIFTED ABOUT 370 LPF
PERSONNEL (MORE THAN 80 PERCENT UNIFORMED) TO VIENTIANE.
OVER HALF WERE ARMED WITH AK-47'S, AND OBSERVERS ALSO
COUNTED AT LEAST 17 B-40 OR B-41 ROCKET LAUNCHERS.
INCLUDED IN THE ESTIMATED 100 TONS OF CARGO LPF BROUGHT
ALONG WERE SACKS OF RICE, FURNITURE, CONSIDERABLE
QUANTITIES OF AMMUNITION, AND FIVE VEHICLES. THESE
MAGNITUDES WERE CONFIRMED BY RLG SPOKESMAN LANE
PATTHAMAVONG IN HIS PRESS CONFERENCE OCTOBER 18.

B. PRC'S IL-14'S ALSO AIRLIFTED 19 LPF PERSONNEL
(15 UNIFORMED CARRYING AK-47'S) TO LUANG PRABANG
OCTOBER 18, AFTER FLYING TEST FLIGHT AND TWO CARGO RUNS

EARLIER IN THE WEEK. RLG ANTICIPATES PRC WILL FLY SEVEN ADDITIONAL SORTIES ON OCTOBER 19. PRC HAS APPARENTLY INFORMED JCIA SUB-COMMITTEES FOR NEUTRALIZATION OF LUANG PRABANG ABOUT FLIGHT SCHEDULES ON SPORADIC BASIS, BUT HAS NOT SOUGHT APPROPRIATE RLG FLIGHT CLEARANCES. THIS PRACTICE HAS RUFFLED RLGAF SENSITIVITIES.

LPF PERSONNEL IN VIENTIANE ARE QUARTERED AT SOMBOUN SCHOOL, RENOVATED BY RLG FOR THIS PURPOSE. THEY HAVE PROCEEDED DIRECTLY FROM AIRPORT TO THE SCHOOL AND THEIR PRESENCE IS NOT NOTICEABLE IN TOWN. LPF HAS REPORTEDLY REQUESTED CONTINUATION OF THE AIRLIFT OF PERSONNEL AND CARGO TO VIENTIANE IN THE PERIOD OCTOBER 19-26. IT HAS PROPOSED BRINGING IN 700 TROOPS AND 200 TONS OF CARGO. RLG DELEGATION TO JCIA HAS RECOMMENDED THAT THIS REQUEST BE DENIED UNTIL JCIA IS PREPARED TO MONITOR THE ARRIVALS.

B. JOINT COMMISSION TO IMPLEMENT THE AGREEMENT (JCIA):

PHAGNA SOUKHAN VILAYSARN, CHIEF OF RLG DELEGATION TO JCIA, ANNOUNCED THAT JCIA SUB-COMMITTEES FOR NEUTRALIZATION OF VIENTIANE AND LUANG PRABANG HAVE BEEN CREATED. RLG NAMED FULL COMPLEMENT OF ITS TWO THREE-MAN DELEGATIONS, BUT LPF NAMED ONLY ITS TWO PRESIDENTS. MEMBERSHIP ON BOTH SIDES WAS FAIRLY LOW LEVEL. SOUKHAN NOTED THAT OTHER JCIA SUB-COMMITTEES, PROVIDED FOR IN PROTOCOL, ARE YET TO BE ESTABLISHED.

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JCIA, ITSELF, HAS NOT YET MET, ALTHOUGH TWO CHAIRMEN HAVE DONE SO. RLG HAD PROPOSED TO LPF DELEGATION THAT MEETING BE CONVENED ON OCTOBER 18, BUT LPF DECLINED ON THE BASIS THAT THEY ARE "NOT READY" TO MEET. LOCAL PRESS QUOTES LPF REPRESENTATIVES AS STATING THAT THEY WERE TOO BUSY GREETING LPF ARRIVALS AT AIRPORT TO ATTEND JCIA MEETING AT THIS TIME. PRIVATELY, LPF IS TAKING POSITION THAT UNTIL ALL FACILITIES ALLOCATED TO THEM IN VIENTIANE ARE READY FOR OCCUPANCY AND UNTIL LPF COMPLEMENT CAN BEGIN FUNCTIONING UNDER STATUS OF DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY ACCORDED BY PROTOCOL, IT CANNOT PARTICIPATE IN JCIA MEETING. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF RLG DELEGATION TO JCIA, KHAMKING SOUVANLASY, HAS TOLD EMBOFF THAT HE AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION ARE LOSING PATIENCE WITH LPF REFUSAL TO COOPERATE IN ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR RLG TO MONITOR INFLUX OF LPF PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT. KHAMKING AND SOUKHAN TIMIDLY RAISED QUESTION IN LPF CABINET MEETING OCTOBER 17, BUT PRIME MINISTER REPORTEDLY MADE NO REPLY AND DISCUSSIONS PASSED TO OTHER SUBJECTS. FAR DEPUTY COMMANDER GENERAL KOUPRASITH SAID THAT, WHILE FAR WAS CONCERNED WITH RAPID INFLUX OF HEAVILY-ARMED LPF PERSONNEL, IT WOULD TAKE NO STEPS TO CONTROL THEM WITHOUT

DIRECT ORDERS FROM PRIME MINISTER OR HEAD OF RLG DELEGATION TO JCIA. HE SAID THAT PRIME MINISTER HAD LECTURED FAR COMMANDERS ON NEED NOT ONLY TO FORM COALITION GOVERNMENT AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE, BUT ALSO NOT TO GENERATE--FOR NON-COMMUNIST SIDE IN LAOS--IMAGE OF INTENTION TO DELAY IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT WHICH PRIME MINISTER SAID HAD SETTLED ON GVN IN SAIGON. INCIDENTALLY, RLG SPOKESMAN, IN PRESS CONFERENCE OCTOBER 18, STATED THAT GOVERNMENT WAS INFORMED IN ADVANCE OF ARRIVALS OF LPF PERSONNEL BUT NOT OF THE CARGO. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT FOR JCIA TO MEET TO DETERMINE AGREED NUMBER OF TROOPS WHICH WOULD CONSTITUTE "ONE SECURITY BATTALION" UNDER TERMS OF PROTOCOL AND ALSO TO MONITOR THE QUANTITY OF ARMAMENT LPF IS INTRODUCING TO ASSURE THAT EQUALITY BETWEEN TWO SIDES IS MAINTAINED. HOWEVER, LPF WILL UNDOUBTEDLY CLAIM THEIR BAGGAGE HAS "DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY" UNDER PROTOCOL.

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II. NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, WHICH WILL CONTINUE ITS CURRENT SESSION UNTIL NOVEMBER 7, IS ONLY MARKING

TIME AND DID NOT HOLD PLENARY MEETING THIS WEEK.

III. ICC DEVELOPMENTS

WE INFORMED INDIAN CHAIRMAN OF ICC ON OCTOBER 8 THAT USG IS MAKING DEPOSIT OF \$110,000 TO ICC/LAOS ACCOUNT. THIS CONTRIBUTION SHOULD ENABLE ICC TO FINISH CY-73 IN REASONABLY SOLVENT CONDITION.

IV. SECURITY SITUATION

ONLY FIVE MINOR INCIDENTS (WITH ONE KIA) WERE REPORTED DURING WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 18. THREE OF THESE INCIDENTS TOOK PLACE IN MR-V WHICH, WHILE UNUSUAL, IS NOT THOUGHT TO BE PARTICULARLY SIGNIFICANT.
WHITEHOUSE

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 11 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973VIENTI07182
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731067/abqcelpx.tel
Line Count: 208
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: VIENTIANE 7023
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25-Jul-2001 by thigpegh>; APPROVED <14-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LAO WEEKLY SITREP - OCTOBER 18
TAGS: MOPS, PGOV, PFOR, PINS, PINT, LA
To: STATE INFO BANGKOK
CANBERRA
JAKARTA
LONDON
MANILA
MOSCOW
NEW DELHI

OTTAWA
PARIS
PHNOM PENH
RANGOON
SAIGON
TAIPEI
TOKYO
WELLINGTON
HONG KONG
UDORN
PEKING
USUN N Y
DIA
USIA
CINCPAC
CINCUSARPAC
CINCPACAF
CINCPACFLT
CDR USSAG NKP
CDR AF ADVON UDORN
USDAO SAIGON
SECDEF
COMUSMACTHAI
DODSPECREP BANGKOK
DODSPECREP NKP
TFW KORAT
CHSPECATS BANGKOK
CDR JCRC NKP
KORAT
TFW UDORN
TFW UBON
TFW KORAT
SOW NKP
Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005